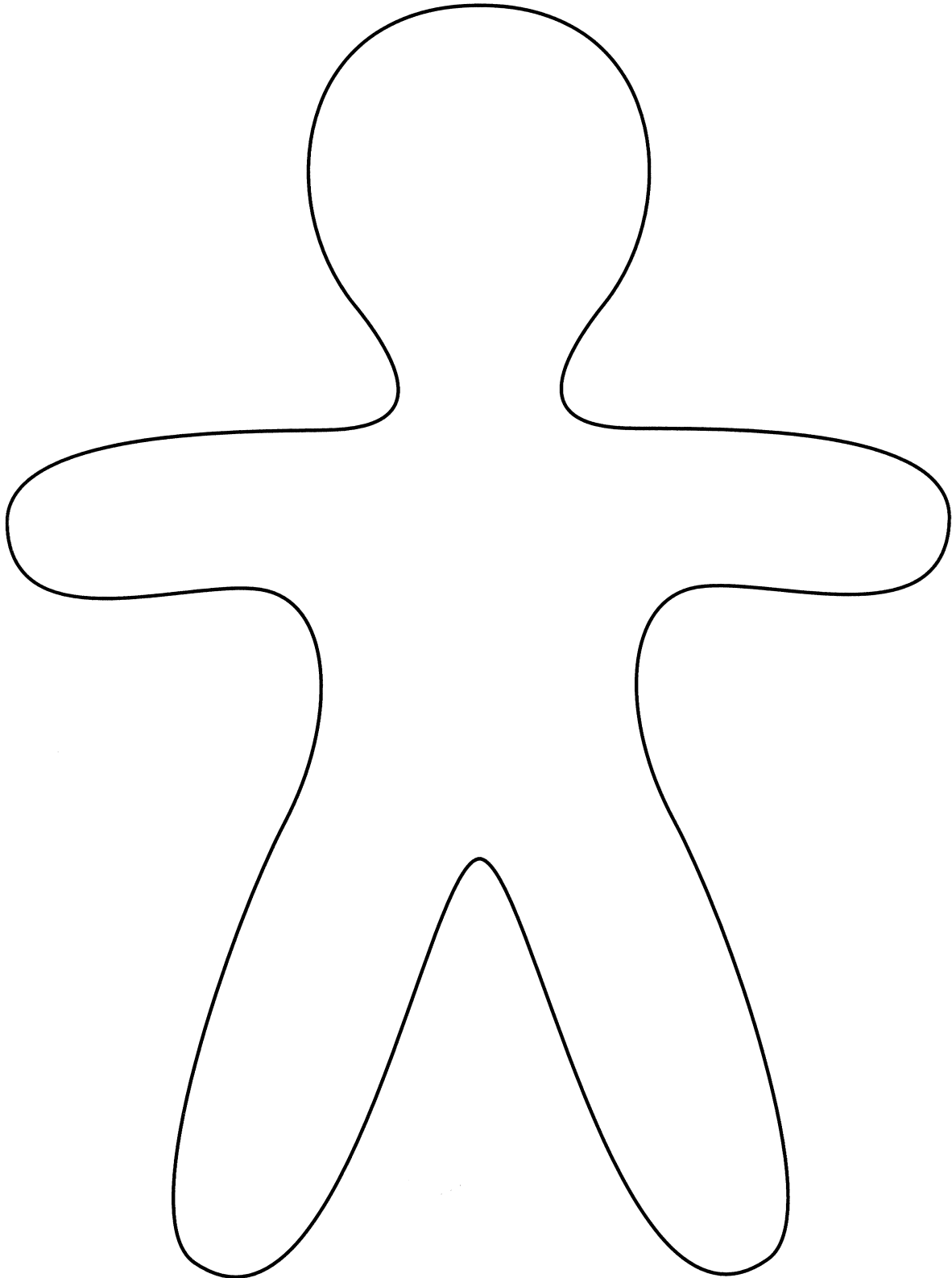


**Paper Person**  
(for Lesson 5)



## LESSON 9

### Your Verdict, Please (Skit for Experiencing the Story in Lesson 9)

- SUMMARY:** In this skit, a courtroom drama unfolds: The prosecuting attorney, played by an older student, presents evidence to show why Joseph should not forgive his brothers.
- SCENE:** The judge (dressed in a choir robe, if possible) is seated at a desk or table and holds a gavel. A chair facing the audience (for witnesses) is next to the table. Space for acting a part of the drama is left at one side of the courtroom.
- PROPS:** two chairs, a gavel (a mallet or hammer will do), a choir robe, a desk or table
- CHARACTERS:** Lawyer, Judge, Eli the Slave Trader, Simeon, Joseph
- SCRIPT*
- Lawyer** (*speaking dramatically with arms waving*): Your Honor, Joseph's brothers are criminals! Years ago these brothers sold Joseph as a slave! (*Points to audience seated behind him.*) To cover their crime, they told their father that Joseph was dead. These brothers deserve to be punished!
- Judge** (*sitting behind the desk or table facing the audience*): You may call your first witness.
- Lawyer:** I call Eli the Slave Trader. (*Eli comes forward and sits in the chair facing the audience.*) Tell us about the morning in question. You were leading your caravan when you saw shepherds with their sheep. What happened?
- Eli:** One of those shepherds—Simeon, I think—flagged me down. He said he had a slave he wanted to sell. When they pulled the boy out of the dry well, I realized they were selling their own brother!
- Lawyer** (*speaking dramatically*): Their brother, you say?
- Eli:** Yes, sir.
- Lawyer:** Can you remember Joseph's reaction?
- Eli:** It was like this . . . (*Eli freezes in place, and the scene moves to the selling of Joseph.*)
- Simeon** (*holding Joseph by the arm and shaking him*): Ha, Joseph, we're getting rid of you at last! We've had enough of your wild dreams and stories about how we, your brothers, will someday bow down to you.
- Joseph:** Can I help my dreams? I love you all, brothers. Please don't hurt me.
- Simeon:** Hurt you? We were planning to kill you. But now we have a better plan. (*Throws Joseph at the feet of Eli, who has risen from the chair and taken his place in the scene.*) He's all yours, Slave Trader.
- Joseph:** No, Simeon, don't do this! (*Eli grabs Joseph by the arm and drags him away. Joseph calls over his shoulder.*) Please, don't do this! (*Joseph returns to the audience, and the scene changes back to the courtroom.*)

**Lawyer:** Your Honor, Joseph has suffered terribly because of the crime his brothers committed against him. He missed his father. He worked long, hard hours as a slave in the house of Potiphar. He was accused of a crime he did not commit and spent many long years in jail. But today, no thanks to his brothers, Joseph has risen above all that. He's second in command to the king of Egypt. Your Honor, lock these brothers in the same jail that held Joseph as prisoner—and throw away the key! What is your verdict?

**Judge:** I find the defendants guilty!  
*(Pounds the gavel on the table.)*

**Joseph** *(rising from the audience):* May I address the court, Your Honor?

**Judge:** You may, Joseph.

**Joseph:** All that has been said today is true. My brothers sold me into slavery when I was a

boy. But don't you see? What they planned for evil, God used for good.

**Judge:** What about the punishment your brothers deserve?

**Joseph:** I understand, Your Honor. But I have forgiven them, and I ask that they be set free.

**Simeon** *(running to Joseph and bowing to him):* I do not deserve to be forgiven, my brother.

**Joseph** *(helping Simeon rise to his feet):* That may be true, but I forgive you anyway.

**Judge:** And I forgive you as well.

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(This skit is adapted from *The Children's Worker's Encyclopedia of Bible-Teaching Ideas: Old Testament* [Loveland, Colo.: Group Publishing, 1997], pp. 25, 26. Used by permission.)

# It's About Grace

words and music by  
*J. M. Herrington*

It's a - bout grace, grace, Je - sus took my

place; It's a - bout love, love, He came down from a - bove.

Jus - tice, sin and mer - cy meet at Cal - va - ry's tree, Je - sus shed His blood to save a

sin - ner like me. Be - cause of Je - sus' love, I am for - gi - ven and free. Thank

1. God for His a - ma - zing grace 2. God, Praise His

name! Thank God for His a - ma - zing Grace.

## Samson's Song (for Lesson 12)

*Samson's parents:*

Choose the lovely Sarah, Samson,  
She's the one for you.  
She loves the Lord and serves Him,  
Samson,  
She'll be always true.

*Samson:*

I will make my own choice,  
I will choose my way,  
No one orders me to listen,  
I will not obey.

*Narrator:*

Samson's at Delilah's house,  
He trusts in her instead,  
Come and cut his curly locks, for  
We will have his head.

*Samson:*

I have made my own choice,  
I have had my way,  
I couldn't trust my own strength.  
Now I'll have to pay.

*Narrator:*

Sweating grimly at the grinder,  
Working like a horse,  
Samson knows he has been blind and  
He must find the Source.

*Samson:*

"God, will You return to me?"  
"Son, I never went away.  
I'm here to win the victory  
For you, this very day."

—Doug Hosking